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Remarks

Applicants hereby add new claims 36-43 which are supported at least by the teachings of Figs. 2-3 and 7 and the respective teachings of the specification.

Referring to the 101 rejections, Applicants have amended claim 34 as requested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 101 rejection.

Referring to the 102 rejection of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection inasmuch as positively-recited limitations of the claim are not disclosed by the prior art.

In particular, the Office identifies the wireless network as teaching the claimed first communications network and the wired LAN as teaching the second communication network. However, claim 1 specifies that the *print server is communicatively coupled to the hard imaging devices via the first communications network*. Applicants have failed to uncover any teachings that the print server 13 of Ohta is communicatively coupled with the hard imaging devices via the wireless network identified as allegedly teaching the first communications network. To the contrary, communications of the print server are implemented using the wired LAN in Ohta.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Furthermore, the limitations that the *print server is configured to automatically generate a translated print request in the first communication link format for processing by the at least one of the plurality of hard imaging devices* is not disclosed nor suggested by the teachings of Ohta. Ohta is void of teaching that the print server 13 generates a translated print request for the wireless network identified as allegedly teaching the claimed first communication network let alone that such a translated print request is generated *for processing by at least one of the hard imaging devices*. To the contrary, the communications of the print server 13 to the printers of Ohta occur over the wired LAN.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants have failed to uncover any teachings in paragraphs 37-38 of the positively-recited limitations of the print server being further configured to automatically generate and communicate a signal to the external device, the signal being indicative of individual hard imaging devices among the plurality of hard imaging devices configured to be supported by the print server even if the plurality of hard imaging devices are not configured to support the second communication link format. Applicants have failed to uncover any teachings of print server 13 providing information of the printers to devices 11, 14 of Ohta.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

The claims which depend from independent claim 1 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 18, the teachings of Ohta relied upon by the Office teach the print server communicatively coupled to the printers via the wired LAN 15 and fail to disclose or suggest the positively-recited limitations that the print server is communicatively coupled to the printers via the first communication network and to receive a print request from the external device in a second communication link format.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Furthermore, the generic teachings of paragraphs 0037-0038 of Ohta fail to teach or suggest the positively-defined limitations of the print server being further configured to communicate with the external device with information regarding

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individual printers supported by the print server even if the individual printers are incompatible to directly process a print request from the external device.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

In addition, the teachings at paragraph 0052 of Ohta teach a proxy server for use in embodiments where the print server or client server is located on the Internet and which improves the security in receiving data from the Internet which fails to teach or suggest the claimed limitations of the print server being configured to function as a proxy server let alone the print server being configured to function as a proxy server for requests, from the external device, to enable functions not supported by the print server.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

The claims which depend from independent claim 18 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 24, Ohta teaches the wired network for linking the print server to the plurality of printers and the print server 13 only receives a print request from the client device 14 also by the wired network which fails to teach or suggest the combination of limitations including a first communication means for communicatively linking the print server means to a plurality of printers and the print server means configured for receiving a print request from the external device in a second communication link format.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Furthermore, the print server 13 generates communications which are communicated using the wired LAN and the Office has failed to identify teachings

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of Ohta which disclose *the print server means for automatically generating a translated print request which is forwarded by the printer server means for processing by at least one of the plurality of printers.*

In addition, the print server 13 of Ohta fails to teach limitations of a *print server means being configured for automatically generating and communicating a signal to the external device, the signal being indicative of individual printers among the plurality of printers that are supported by the print server means even if the plurality of printers are not configured to support the second communication link format.*

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

The claims which depend from independent claim 24 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 26, at page 10 of the Action, the Office identifies the *wireless network* as teaching the first communications network. However, Applicants have failed to uncover any teachings in Ohta of the print server 13 communicatively coupled to the printers by the wireless network which is identified as allegedly teaching the first communications network. The limitations of the *print server communicatively coupled to the printers via the first communications network* is not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Furthermore, Ohta teaches that the print server 13 communicates using the *wired network 15* connected to the print server and fails to teach or suggest that the print server is configured to generate a translated print request in the first communication link format when the Office states that the wireless network of Ohta teaches the first communications network.

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In addition, the Office fails to identify any teachings in Ohta of the limitations of the *translated print request generated by the print server being forwarded to at least one of the plurality of printers for processing*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

The claims which depend from independent claim 26 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 28, the Office at page 12 of the Action identifies the wired network of Ohta as allegedly teaching the second communication network and Ohta teaches the print server 13 communicating with the printers also using the wired network which fails to teach or suggest the limitations of *communicatively linking the print server to a plurality of printers via a first communication network among the distinct communication networks*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Ohta also fails to teach or suggest *configuring the print server to generate a translated print request, in a first communication link format that is different from the second communication link format*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants also respectfully submit that Ohta fails to teach or suggest the claimed *configuring the print server to generate a translated print request for processing by at least one of the plurality of printers*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

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Applicants have failed to uncover teachings of *configuring the print server to generate and communicate a signal to the external device, the signal including information of individual printers, among the plurality of printers, supported by the print server even if the plurality of hard printers are not configured to support the second communication link format.*

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

The claims which depend from independent claim 28 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 34, Ohta teaches the print server 13 communicating with the wired network 15 and fails to teach or suggest the claimed limitations of the print server apparatus generating a translated print request in a first communication link format that is different from the second communication link format for processing by individual ones of a plurality of printers in combination with the limitations of receiving a print request from an external device.

Furthermore, Ohta fails to teach or suggest *generation and communication of a signal to the external device, the signal being indicative of the individual printers supported by the print server even if the plurality of hard imaging devices are not configured to support the second communication link format.*

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-recited teachings are not disclosed nor suggested by Ohta and the 102 rejection is improper for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections for at least the above-mentioned numerous reasons.

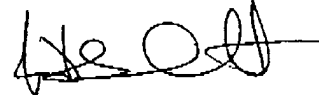
The claims which depend from independent claim 34 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

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Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned if the Examiner believes such would facilitate prosecution of the present application. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time during normal business hours (Pacific Time Zone).

By:



James D. Shaurette

Reg. No. 39,833

Date: 1/18/07

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